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POST ROCK DISTRICT 4-H NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2026

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SAFE TRACTOR & MACHINERY OPERATION TRAINING APRIL 25 IN BELOIT



Post Rock Extension will be holding a Safe Tractor and Machinery Operation Training at Carrico Implement in Beloit on April 26. This training is designed for 14 and 15 year old youth seeking employment in production agriculture. Core content areas included in the one-day training include safety basics, agricultural hazards, tractors, connecting and using implements, materials handling and other related topics. Students will be certified after successfully passing a knowledge test at the training and completing both an operating skills test and a driving test administered by their employer.

The cost to participate is \$15. Payment is due to your local Extension office. Prior to the course, each participant must pick up a manual and complete a pre-test before attending the training event. For questions, contact Blaire Tood at blairet@ksu.edu or 785-738.3597. The event flyer can be found on the [Post Rock Extension website](#). [Register online](#). Registration deadline is one week before the date of the event you plan to attend. Additional training dates in this region include: April 18th - Great Bend at KanEquip and May 28th - Solomon at KanEquip, Inc.

SENIOR SHOUT OUTS! SUBMIT BY APRIL 15



We want to celebrate our graduating high school seniors! If interested, before April 15 please email Post Rock District at postrock4h@ksu.edu the following:

- A photo or two (senior photo, favorite 4-H photo, or throwback childhood photo)
- A quote or message (why you love 4-H, how you have benefited from being involved in 4-H, a favorite 4-H memory, or a quote that has guided you through the years)

PROJECT ENROLLMENT DUE MAY 1 IN 4-H ONLINE


**MUST BE ENROLLED IN PROJECTS
TO EXHIBIT
AT COUNTY FAIR!**



Log in to [4-H Online](#) or contact your local Extension Office to review and update your projects! 4-H project experiences, opportunities and reminders are communicated to you by local and state 4-H staff based on your project enrollment and contact information in 4-H Online. **May 1 is the final project drop/add deadline if you want to exhibit in a respective project area at the county fair.**

JEWELL COUNTY CLOVER CONNECTION

Paige Duskie
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Katelyn Pahls
Office Professional
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4-H COUNCIL NOTES

- The Jewell County 4-H Council Meeting is Sunday, April 12, following small animal weigh-in. **Note the date change!**
- The 4-H Council voted to remove stall decorations from the fair book except for the horse project because of the high point judging.
- The 2026 Grand Champion Award prizes will be cash.
- The pre-fair entry deadline is June 17, 2026.

SENIOR SHOUT OUTS!

We want to celebrate our graduating high school seniors! If interested, before April 15 please email postrock4h@ksu.edu, the following:

- A photo or two (senior photo, favorite 4-H photo, or throwback childhood photo)
- A quote or message (why you love 4-H, how you have benefited from being involved in 4-H, favorite 4-H memory, or a quote that has guided you through the years)

SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS DUE APRIL 15

We have 3 local scholarships that you can apply for. Read the details closely so you have all components prepared prior to beginning each application. The applications are on the [Post Rock 4-H Education Scholarship webpage](#).

SHUTTERBUG
SATURDAY, May 2



Jewell Community Center
(218 Delaware St, Jewell, KS 66949)

- State level photography workshop
- See district page for more details

LAST CALL FOR FAIR T-SHIRTS

The 2026 Jewell County Fair t-shirt design is ready! Order forms will be due to the Mankato Extension Office by April 14. Turn in orders to your club leader.

JEWELL COUNTY 4-H/FFA SMALL ANIMAL WEIGH-IN

Sunday, April 12 | 2:00 p.m. | Fairgrounds



LIVESTOCK TAGS

Tags are available in the Extension Office and will also be available at weigh-ins. Please note that EID tags can not be sold over the counter. A Post Rock District staff member must be present and observe all EID tags being placed in the animal's ear. Jewell County 4-H/FFA tags are free thanks to support from the 4-H Council; \$3.50 for beef EID tags; and \$2.75 for small animal EID tags.

DEADLINE TO ADD/DROP PROJECTS

The deadline to add/drop projects in 4-H Online is May 1! You can only take exhibits to fair in projects you are enrolled in! Call the office if you need help.


OFFICE HOURS FOR PAIGE

My in-office days will usually be Tuesdays and Fridays. If you need to leave me a message when I am not in, call the office or send me an email. I will get back to you as soon as I can.

Thanks!~Paige

LINCOLN COUNTY CLOVER CONNECTION

Carla Morriral
4-H Program Coordinator
cemorriral@ksu.edu

 (785)524-4432

Shelby Rathbun
Office Professional
shelbyra@ksu.edu

SMALL ANIMAL WEIGH IN

Small Animal Weigh-In Saturday, April 25
Lincoln County Fairgrounds - 10 a.m.



DEADLINE TO ADD/DROP PROJECTS

The deadline to add/drop projects in 4-H Online is May 1! You can only take exhibits to fair in projects you are enrolled in! Please double check your enrollment in 4-H Online to be sure you are enrolled in the projects you want. Call the office if you need help.

THANK YOU!!!

Please join me in thanking all the 4-H volunteers for all of the work and the hours they donate to make our 4-H program the best. April 19-25 is National Volunteer Week. We truly appreciate you.

PRE FAIR ENTRY DEADLINE

The pre-fair deadline to enter your items for the Lincoln County Fair is July 1, 2026. What you enter and what you actually take to the fair may be different but what you take **MUST** be entered by July 1st.

SENIOR SHOUT OUTS

We want to celebrate our graduating high school seniors! If interested, before April 15 please email the following to postrock4h@ksu.edu:

- A photo or two (senior photo, favorite 4-H photo, or throwback childhood photo)
- A quote or message (why you love 4-H, how you have benefited from being involved in 4-H, favorite 4-H memory, or a quote that has guided you through the years)

Lincoln 4-H COUNCIL

Wednesday, June 10, 2026 - 6:30pm - Lincoln Senior Center.



LINCOLN COUNTY 4-H/FFA TAGS

If you plan to exhibit livestock beyond the county fair, **please let our office know** how many EID Tags you will need at Small Animal Weigh-in. We need this information to ensure we have enough. **Please note** that EID tags cannot be given to a 4-Her/parent over the counter. A Post Rock District staff member must be present and observe all EID tags being placed in the animal's ear. And, this year 4-H Council has decided to pay for all ear tags.

LINCOLN COUNTY 4-H SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS

There are three (3) local continuing education scholarships you may be eligible for because of your 4-H involvement in Lincoln County. **Applications are due May 1, 2026**, to the extension office. You can find the applications at <https://www.postrock.k-state.edu/4-h/member-resources/education-scholarships/>.

FAIR T-SHIRTS NOW ON SALE

If you are interested in purchasing a Lincoln County Fair t-shirt, please ask your club leader for an order form. The shirt cost is \$15 and available in youth and adult sizes. Order deadline is May 1. We will be placing an order soon after so that they will arrive before the fair. The **2026 Lincoln County Fair** is July 12th through 18th. The theme is *"All American Flair at the Lincoln County Fair"*.



SAFE TRACTOR & MACHINERY OPERATION TRAINING


Here is a training for 14- and 15-year-olds looking for employment in the ag industry. The 2026 Course Dates, Locations & Contact information are:

- April 18 - KanEquip, Great Bend- 620-793-1910
- April 25 - Carrico Implement - 785-738-3597
- May 28 - KanEquip, Solomon - 785-392-2147

Register online. Manual cost is \$15 & pick up at your local Extension Office

**Our office will be closed Friday,
April 3rd**

MITCHELL COUNTY CLOVER CONNECTION

 (785)738-3597

Tammy Neiter
Office Professional
tneiter@ksu.edu

MITCHELL COUNTY 4-H SMALL ANIMAL WEIGH-IN

Wednesday, April 15th
Mitchell County Fairgrounds
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.



4-H/FFA LIVESTOCK TAGS

EID tags **cannot be** sold over the counter. A Post Rock District staff member **must** be present and observe all EID tags being placed in the animal's ear. Mitchell County 4-H tags are free, \$3.50 for beef EID tags, and \$2.75 for small animal EID tags.

Tags are available for pickup at the Extension office and at Weigh-Ins!

4-H Council Bake Sale



A bake sale fundraiser will be held in the Bank of Tescott meeting room on Friday, April 3rd - Council Bake Sale. Each 4-H family is asked to bring 2 baked goods to the bank by 8 a.m. that morning.

Senior 4-H Scholarships Due May 1

Graduating seniors are eligible to apply for multiple 4-H scholarships! Find the applications at postrock.k-state.edu > 4-H > Member Resources > [Education Scholarships](#)

Project Add/Drop Deadline is May 1

The deadline for enrolling in projects in 4-H Online is May 1. Remember: *if you are not enrolled in a project area in 4-H Online by May 1, you cannot exhibit in that project area at the fair.* This also helps us know how many judges to invite!

Mitchell County Fair Dates:
July 20th-25th, 2026




2026 Mitchell Co. Fair Details

- **Date:** July 20-25th
- **Theme:** Sew it, Show it, Grow it
- **Pre-fair deadline: July 2nd** (livestock entry forms, pen rent fees, fashion revue pre-entry forms & scripts cards due)
- **Pre-fair judging** (foods, visual arts, fashion revue) has moved back to the Christian Church this year
- **Clean up duties:** please contact the Extension office **BEFORE** cleaning to communicate the date(s) you intend to clean up and to get the checklist for your area
 - **West Beloit:** pre-fair livestock barns
 - **Tipton:** after fair 4-H building, kitchen, and restrooms
 - **Asherville Achievers:** Before fair 4-H building clean up (kitchen and restrooms)

[Check out our Mitchell County Fair Website for more fair details!](#)

OSBORNE COUNTY CLOVER CONNECTION

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Rylee Conway
Office Professional
rgconway@ksu.edu

4-H PROJECT ENROLLMENT DUE MAY 1 IN 4-H ONLINE TO PARTICIPATE IN FAIR

Log into your 4-H Online account to review and update the projects each youth are enrolled in. **May 1st** is the last day that 4-H projects can be added or dropped through 4-H Online. A 4-H member must be enrolled in all projects in 4-H Online that the youth intends to exhibit in the 4-H division at the 2026 Osborne County Fair. If you have questions, please contact Kim.



Link to 4-H Online is <https://v2.4honline.com>

SIGN UP NOW FOR MAY 20TH VISUAL ARTS PAINT A PAVER WORKSHOP - LIMITED

Osborne County 4-H Council is sponsoring a Visual Arts "Paint a Paver" Workshop on Wednesday, May 20th, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Learn some painting techniques and create a project for county fair. This workshop only can take 25 participants and this is a first come, first serve enrollment.

Register Now



Cost of the workshop is \$15.00 which includes supplies and a snack for the afternoon..


Deadline for registration is **April 16** so Jayne can get supplies ordered.

Register by sending an email with names of youth attending to postrock4H@ksu.edu.

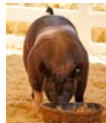
THANK A 4-H VOLUNTEER!

April 19 - 25 is National Volunteer Week. Please make an effort to thank all of the 4-H volunteers who give their time and talent to help 4-H members be **Beyond Ready**.

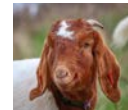
OSBORNE COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL NEWS

 April 20th | 7:30 p.m. | Extension Office

2026 OSBORNE COUNTY SMALL ANIMAL WEIGH-IN AND TAGGING



Sunday, April 26
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.



Osborne County Fairgrounds

Small Weigh-in for swine, sheep and goats will be April 26. You must attend to be in the rate-of-gain contest. Also a reminder that all EID tagging (for state fair participation) must be witnessed by a Post Rock District employee, so this is an opportunity to get those animals tagged as well. Those choosing to not come to weigh-in, please contact Kim to make arrangements to pick up tags.

BUCKET CALF WORKSHOP APRIL 26

Osborne County 4-H Council members will be holding a come and go Bucket Calf workshop during the April 26 Small Animal Weigh-in. Bring your calf or just yourself to learn some important tips to caring and working with your bucket calf.



2026 OSBORNE COUNTY LIVESTOCK TAGS



County fair livestock tags are available in the office for purchase and will also be available at Small Animal Weigh-in.

Please note that EID tags required for livestock projects nominated for the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive show and/or Kansas Junior Livestock Show, can not be sold over the counter. A Post Rock District staff member must be present and observe all EID tags being placed in the animal's ear. Beef EID tags are \$3.50 each and small animal EID tags are \$2.75 each.


2026 OSBORNE COUNTY FAIR

July 22 - 25,
2026



SMITH COUNTY CLOVER CONNECTION

Emma Anderson
4-H Program Coordinator
emmaand2026@ksu.edu

 (785)282-6823

Shelly Garlow
Office Professional
sgarlow@ksu.edu



Small Animal Weigh-In
Sunday, April 26, 2026
2:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Smith County Fair Grounds

MEAT GOAT SHOWMANSHIP CLINIC

This year we are going to be holding a goat showmanship clinic on April 26 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. The clinic will take place at the Smith County Fairgrounds. We will be doing a hands-on experience with showmanship classes, fitting classes, health and nutrition classes, and meat goat judging classes. There will be a class for beginners, in the middle, and one for more advanced showmen looking to improve their skills and knowledge. You can sign up for the clinic at [K-State Qualtrics](#).

DEADLINE TO SIGN UP IS APRIL 17



Construction

We will be undergoing construction at the County Fair Grounds. We will be tearing down and replacing the swine and horse barn! To do this, we received funds through grants to help offset the cost and we are still seeking additional grants. In the meantime, if you are going to the fair grounds for small animal weigh in or other reasons, please park on the West side by the bath house, and be careful when going through the grounds. The plan is to have the barns completed by July 1st. Thank you for your cooperation!


2026 Fair Theme:
Stars, Stripes & Summer Nights
JULY 16-20

HELP NEEDED!

If you are looking for extra activities or events to put towards getting your Member or Project Pins, we are in need of ribbon handlers for the Smith County Free Fair.

Fair Clean-Up Changes

The armory cleanup will happen at 11 AM on Monday, the last day of fair. There will be no exceptions to early tear downs of booths. Round Robin will be moved up to 9 AM on that Monday to help accommodate for the show to be done by the time we start tear down. All animals will be dismissed at 12:30 since the premium sale will be indoors. No trailers are to come in until 12:30. All outside stalls will need to be cleaned by 5 in order to be eligible for premium sale. This is to ensure a safe and fair round robin contest with no distracted kids or animals! Thank you for your understanding!



SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

We have a scholarship opportunity in Smith County! The 4-H Council Scholarship. It can be found on the [Post Rock District website](#) under Smith County. The 4-H Council Scholarship is **DUE ON MAY 1.**

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COMMIT TO FAIR PROJECTS BY MAY 1

In order for high quality project learning to take place through 4-H/FFA, projects (animals and non-animals) are recommended to be owned during the spring (ideally before May 1). This provides the young person a great opportunity to develop valuable life skills through 4-H/FFA project learning experiences in preparation for the county fair's showcase events. All exhibits entered in the 4-H/FFA division of a county fair must be the handiwork of the exhibitor; the grower, where agricultural exhibits are shown; and the owner and feeder, where livestock is entered. All exhibits entered in the 4-H/FFA division of a county fair must be the result of the current program year's work. Ownership is defined so that the project (animal, garden, crop, exhibit creation, sewing, photo, etc.) is under the daily care and supervision of the member; all project-related practices, expenses, and management are the responsibility of the member; and all county fair exhibits should be a planned part of the project.

PRE-FAIR ENTRY DEADLINE: PROJECT VERIFICATION

Each 4-H Council in the Post Rock District will designate a pre-fair entry deadline for 4-H entries. *The pre-fair entry deadline is when all project exhibits must be designated for the class which will be shown at the county fair.* It is an ownership and verification deadline. Entries can be dropped, but not added after the pre-fair deadline. Any project areas not required by 4-H Council to meet the pre-fair deadline will submit entry requirements at the project's fair check-in time. Check your county's 4-H newsletter page or call your local office to find the pre-fair entry deadline set for your respective county fair. This is a very important date to have marked on your calendar if you want to exhibit a 4-H project (animal and non-animal) at the county fair!

SET GOALS BY MAY 1

Setting measurable goals helps guide youth through a high quality 4-H project learning experience. If you haven't yet, May 1 is a good deadline to set to make sure you have clear goals for each enrolled 4-H project. This will help you focus your learning during the summer months. Use the [Kansas 4-H Setting 4-H Project Goals](#) resource to help you, or complete the goal section of your [Project Record Report](#) form.



VOLUNTEER SHOUT OUT OPPORTUNITY - SUBMIT BY APRIL 15

National Volunteer Week is April 20-26. This is an excellent opportunity for your family or club to execute a plan to recognize volunteers in your community and county. 4-H is successful because of contributions from our amazing volunteers!



If you would like to give a special shout out to a club leader, project leader, or another important 4-H volunteer please send a testimonial and photo to our team at postrock4h@ksu.edu. We can share it on the Post Rock District Facebook page. Please submit these by April 15 so we can share them during volunteer week!

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POST ROCK DISTRICT 4-H NEWSLETTER

HOMESCHOOL STEM FIELD DAYS - REGISTER BY APRIL 6



The Northwest 4-H Advisory is hosting Homeschool STEM Field Days. Each event will take place from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.. It includes hands-on experiential learning stations including topics related to baking science, animal science - cattle (at the Hays location), 4-wheeler safety, pollinators, natural fabric dyeing, and more! Find more details on the flyer posted on our event webpage. Online registration is due April 6.

- Hays Location: Tuesday, April 14 ([Online sign-up](#))
- Colby Location: Thursday April 16 ([Online sign-up](#))

SPRING INTO VOLUNTEER TRAINING - REGISTER BY APRIL 15

The Association of Kansas 4-H Volunteers is hosting "Spring Into Volunteering" at the K-State Salina campus on Saturday, April 25 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This is for anyone serving as a 4-H Volunteer or considering it! The goal is for volunteers to go home recharged, excited, and ready to try new things in their volunteer roles. Registration is due by April 15. Register and find complete details, including the agenda at the [Kansas 4-H event's website](#).

VISUAL ARTS WORKSHOP IN OSBORNE - REGISTER BY APRIL 16

Osborne County 4-H Council is organizing a Visual Arts "Paint the Paver" workshop on May 20. The workshop will be held from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Cost of the workshop is \$15.00. Space is limited to the first 25 participants to sign up. The workshop will take place at the 4-H Food Stand at the Osborne County Fairgrounds. Jayne from the Sunflower Shed in Stockton will be leading the class. Participants will paint a patriotic paver and have a project completed for county fair. Deadline for registration is April 16, so we can get supplies ordered. You must be an enrolled Post Rock District 4-H member to participate. An adult is encouraged to attend with youth to support their learning. Register by sending an email with names of youth (and any adult helper) attending to postrock4h@ksu.edu.



SHUTTERBUG PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP IN JEWELL REGISTER BY APRIL 22

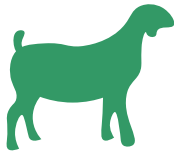


The State Photography Volunteer Team and Jewell County 4-H Council are teaming up to bring a state-level photography workshop to Jewell, KS on May 2. The workshop will be held at the Jewell Community Center from 9:30 a.m. - Noon. All school age youth with an interest in photography are welcome to attend. Space is limited. Participants should bring a camera or phone for hands-on practice. Topics that will be covered include photo composition, basic camera modes/settings. The workshop will include knowledge presentations plus interactive activities. There will also be an introduction to drone photography with a live drone demonstration. There is a \$10 workshop fee per participant. [Register online](#) by April 22. [Review the flyer for details of the event webpage](#).

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POST ROCK DISTRICT 4-H NEWSLETTER

GOAT SHOWMANSHIP CLINIC IN SMITH CENTER ON APRIL 26



Smith County 4-H Council is organizing a goat showmanship clinic on April 26 at 3:30 p.m. The clinic will take place at the Smith County Fairgrounds. This will be a hands-on experience with handling goats, among other skill learning opportunities. There will be a class for beginners, in the middle, and one for more advanced showmen looking to improve their skills and knowledge. They invite youth from across Post Rock District to participate. You can sign up for the clinic at [K-State Qualtrics](#). [Review the flyer for details](#) on the event webpage. Direct questions to Emma Anderson at the Smith Center Extension Office, 785-282-6823.

BUCKET CALF WORKSHOP IN OSBORNE ON APRIL 26

Osborne County 4-H Council is hosting a Bucket Calf Showmanship Clinic. Post Rock District 4-H members are welcome to attend. The workshop is Sunday, April 26, 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Osborne County Fairgrounds Covered Arena in Osborne. This workshop can be hands-on by bringing your bucket calf to work with if it is halter broke and broke to lead, or just come to learn from teens experienced in the beef project about tips for success. It is a come-and-go workshop. Topics to be covered include daily care, showmanship, and show day prep. Please RSVP to postrock4h@ksu.edu by Friday, April 24, before 1:00 p.m., so that we have an idea of who and how many plan to attend. It is recommended for an adult to attend with each participant to assist them throughout the project workshop. Please note in your registration the name of the adult that plans to attend with your participants.



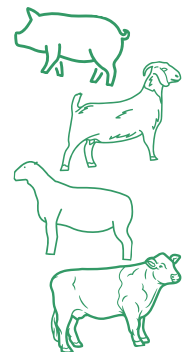
LIVESTOCK COUNTY FAIR MANAGEMENT CLINIC

The Livestock County Fair Management Clinic will be hosted April 13 & 16, 2026, virtually, from 7:00-9:00 p.m., via Zoom. This clinic has been designed for county fair board members, superintendents, and volunteers involved in local livestock fair management and leadership. The program consists primarily of an open forum discussion for individuals working with livestock at their local fairs. Although some of the topics can be applied generally to the county fair, this program focuses on the livestock perspective and projects. It is advantageous to have several representatives from your county attend. The sessions will be recorded for those who register. [Register online by April 6.](#)

LIVESTOCK PROJECT: SPRING SHOWS, EVENTS, AND MORE

If you are seeking opportunities related to livestock projects - like spring shows and other contests - the [KSU Youth Livestock Program website](#) provides a listing of many opportunities. It certainly doesn't contain every learning and competition opportunity, yet it is a great reference point as you plan for spring and summer.

The North Central Kansas Livestock Circuit is not affiliated to K-State Extension or Kansas 4-H, but it provides many showing opportunities in our region. Follow their Facebook page for information: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ncklc>.



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COUNTY FAIR LIVESTOCK WEIGH-IN

Rate-of-gain contests are managed differently in each county and it is an optional experience. Any livestock not weighed-in and tagged with the county's official 4-H tag (or the state Kansas 4-H EID tag) at the designated event are not eligible for the county fair's 4-H rate-of-gain contest. The determination of what livestock are eligible for rate-of-gain is the decision of the county body which manages the experience in the respective county (4-H Council or Fair Board). Watch your county's 4-H Newsletter page for information about weigh-in and verification events! **If you are enrolled in a livestock project, it is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED to bring your animal to these events** because attending can assure you are understanding of and ready to meet all exhibition requirements (so you won't be disqualified at fair); you can connect with other adults and youth in the project for support, encouragement, and assistance throughout the year; and you can get many of your questions answered.

FAIR PREMIUM AUCTIONS AND PROJECT SALES

County Fair Premium Auctions and Project Sales are NOT governed or clerked by Post Rock Extension District nor the local county's 4-H Council. We are also not the fiscal agent for the event. The premium auction or project sale is operated differently in each county. You can contact your local extension office to learn about the event in your county so you can be prepared to meet all requirements, if you want to participate. We are happy to share the expectations and rules set by the group that governs your respective event.

STATE FAIR ANIMALS

Exhibiting an animal beyond the 4-H division at a Post Rock District county fair means that ownership and identification must meet the requirements outlined by the specific show's governing body. The 4-H member is responsible for understanding the deadlines and expectations involved. If your animal species doesn't classify for state livestock nomination, visit the [K-State Youth Livestock website](#) for important ownership, verification, and exhibition deadlines and details. Contact your local Extension Office as soon as possible if you are considering showing at the Kansas State Fair, so we can share resources to help you navigate the process

ZOOM SESSIONS COVERING STATE LIVESTOCK NOMINATION PROCESS

The K-State Youth Livestock Program will be hosting zoom sessions that cover the state livestock nomination process. This will be an additional resource for 4-H families to use as a guide when completing state livestock nominations. Attendees need to register by noon on the Monday prior to the zoom meeting to receive the link for the meeting. The zoom link will be emailed to those who register prior to the meeting. The sessions will be recorded and posted on the [nomination information](#) page of the youth livestock [website](#), with the other nomination resources, following the meeting.

- [Beef State Nomination Registration](#) for April 8 at 6:00 p.m.
- [Swine, Sheep, Meat Goat Registration](#) for May 6 at 6:00 p.m.



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STATE LIVESTOCK NOMINATIONS

All youth who would like to be eligible for the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive and/or Kansas Junior Livestock Show (KJLS) must be nominated. The [Kansas Youth Livestock Program](#) website outlines the [State Livestock Nomination Process](#) under the "Nomination Information" tab. Families are highly encouraged to use the resources available, especially the *Rookie Guide*.

The nomination process is through an online system. Families will purchase DNA envelopes in advance, submit their animal and exhibitor information online, then mail their completed and signed DNA samples by the deadline. Extension Agents and FFA Advisors will approve nominations online.

Exhibitors who nominated animals in past years need to use their existing ShoWorks account. Those who need help accessing their account may request a password reset through ShoWorks or contact the [Kansas Youth Livestock Program](#) for assistance. Returning exhibitors should not create a new account. The ShoWorks website is <https://kansasnom.fairwire.com/>.



**KANSAS
YOUTH LIVESTOCK
PROGRAM
WEBSITE**

Grand Drive and KJLS Important Dates:

- April 20: Last Day to Order Beef DNA Envelopes
- May 1: Market Beef Nominations Due & DNA Postmarked
- June 5: Last Day to Order Small Livestock DNA Envelopes
- June 15: Small Livestock Nominations Due & DNA Postmarked
 - Market Swine, Commercial Gilt
 - Market Lamb, Commercial Ewe
 - ALL Meat Goat (Market & Breeding)
- June 15: Commercial Heifer Nominations Due
- June 15: Registered Breeding Heifer Papers in Exhibitor's Name
- June 15: Registered Breeding Gilt Papers in Exhibitor's Name
- July 1: Registered Breeding Ewe Papers in Exhibitor's Name
- July 15: Kansas State Fair Grand Drive Entry Deadline
- July 25: Kansas State Fair Grand Drive Late Entry Deadline
- August 15: KJLS Entry Deadline
- August 31: KJLS Late Entry Deadline
- September 5 - 7: Kansas State Fair Grand Drive
- October 3-5: Kansas Junior Livestock Show

NEED EID TAGGING VERIFICATION? ATTEND YOUR SMALL ANIMAL WEIGH-IN!

The expectation in Jewell, Lincoln, Mitchell, Osborne and Smith Counties is that animals needing verified with an EID tag attend a weigh-in to be verified by staff!

Post Rock District will NOT sell Kansas 4-H EID tags over-the-counter at our Extension Offices. The state requires our staff to approve all State Nominations for livestock, and part of that approval process is confirming that we have physically seen each Kansas 4-H EID tag in your livestock animal's ear at tagging time (i.e. county weigh-in event). Attend the small animal weigh (any species) to complete this verification.

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DOG PROJECT EXPERIENCES IN POST ROCK DISTRICT

Spring Project Meetings begin April 12: Post Rock District Dog Project Leader, Kelli Burrus, will be leading dog project meetings at the Osborne County Fairgrounds on spring Sunday afternoons at 3:00 p.m. Dates are April 12, 19, 26 and May 3 and 17. No prior experience or knowledge is required to attend, just a desire for you and your dog to have fun while learning. Kelli understands everyone is busy so come to the meetings you are available to attend. ***It is important to be registered in 4-H Online in the dog project, so please call your local extension office to make sure you are in the project.*** To help with preparations, please RSVP interest in participating by emailing Kim Naber at kimn@ksu.edu.



Fair Dog Show: The 2026 Post Rock District 4-H Dog Show has been set for the morning of Saturday, June 20. The reason for setting the date in June is that it provides a date in advance of the Post Rock District county fairs to avoid 4-H scheduling conflicts. This is the official dog show for all county fairs. Due to the uniqueness of this project, we do not have a dog show at each county fair; instead, we do the dog project as a district-wide show.

State Fair Qualifiers: If you want to show at the state fair, your dog must qualify. The Post Rock District 4-H Dog Show is a qualifier. On [Kansas 4-H's dog project website](#), you can find a listing of other qualifier shows and other opportunities across the state.

HORSE PROJECT REQUIREMENTS



Horse project members are strongly encouraged to get your horse coggins testing completed soon. This will prevent you from having any issues with participation at 4-H and non-4-H events during the spring and summer. Kansas Division of Animal Health has revised regulations and it is now the responsibility of the horse owner to have a negative Coggins test. A negative Coggins test is valid for 12 months. It is up to the participant to provide verification if event organizers require proof of a negative Coggins test! Read the full regulation on the [Kansas Division of Animal Health website](#).

Planning to show at the State 4-H Horse Show? There are important deadlines that must be met to be eligible for the State 4-H Horse Show. Kim Naber, 4-H Program Coordinator, is an excellent resource for the equine project and she is happy to explain the requirements and deadlines. She can be reached at 785-346-2521 or kimn@ksu.edu. It's best to reach out to Kim or your local Extension Office before May 1, so you can be on track to meet all requirements.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

If you know someone 18 and over looking for a youth development professional experience, share about the internship opportunity! An area of focus for this internship is executing hands-on, project-based activities for school-age youth audiences in Jewell, Lincoln, Mitchell, Osborne, and Smith Counties. Multiple positions are available! Learn more at www.postrock.k-state.edu/

**WE'RE
HIRING!**

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FAIR JUDGES & PROJECT LEADER TRAINING - REGISTER BY APRIL 1

There is a 4-H and Open Class Judges Training on Tuesday, April 14 in Concordia. [Register online by April 1](#). The event will start at 5:15 p.m., but there is an optional early learning at 3:45 p.m. \$20 registration includes dinner. Learn how to conduct effective conference evaluations using recognized standards, with project-specific guidance. Project areas include: Visual Arts, Posters, Notebooks, and Displays, Building Block Engineering, Welding, Fashion Revue, Photography, Sewing and Textiles, Robotics, Aerospace/Rocketry, and Woodworking. [View the full schedule here](#).

SHOOTING SPORTS UPDATES

If you have questions about Shooting Sports, please reach out to Nora Rhoades. Nora is the agent-point-of-contact for all shooting sports projects. Tonia Underwood has taken a new job, but she is continuing to serve as the shooting sports coordinator as a volunteer. We are required to have both a trained coordinator and agent-point-of-contact for youth in Post Rock District to engage in any level of shooting sports. Nora can be reached at 785-378-3174 or nrhoades@ksu.edu.

- **Archery Practices with Tommie:** Instructor Tommie Berger is having spring practices. An email with details was shared to youth enrolled in the project.
- **Rifle Discipline - Any interest?** Instructor Jeff Cady will organize practices for the rifle discipline if there is enough interest. Practices would be in the late spring and early summer. Let Nora know if you'd be interested.
- **Shotgun Practices with Karen:** Instructor Karen Panter will have 4-H shotgun practices this spring. Information will be emailed to those in the project once available.
- **Last Call for Instructor Training Sign-up:** Kansas 4-H is hosting the required training at Rock Springs Ranch near Junction City on May 2 - 3. There are multiple steps that must be completed before the training in order to attend. There is a cost to become certified, but many times we can help secure local support for stepping up to serve our youth in these project areas. Training is required if you are interested in instructing 4-H Archery, BB gun, Air Pistol, Air Rifle, Small Bore Rifle, Muzzleloader, or Hunting Skills.
- **Archery Qualifier - Save the Date of July 26:** Instructor Stede Underwood is working on details to host an Archery Qualifier on the morning of Sunday, July 26, at Glen Elder State Park. This would be open to any youth 9 years and older who have completed instructor led practices. More details to come.

HOST A 4-H JAPANESE STUDENT DURING SUMMER 2026

Kansas 4-H is offering families the opportunity to host a Japanese teen this summer from July 23-August 15. Yes, this is through the county fair, but the Japanese youth would love participating in and learning from the fair activities. Last year, an Osborne County family was host to 2 Japanese high school age boys! Our Japanese guests were able to participate in photography and visual arts judging and worked in the 4-H food stand among many other local experiences. Any Kansas family (4-H family or non-4-H family) with children aged 9-17 who are interested in hosting someone from another culture may apply. If you have interest, please reach out to your local Post Rock District office and we can share more details about this rewarding experience!

K-STATE SUMMER CAMPS

There are a lot of great summer opportunities. If there is a specific project subject matter you are looking for, reach out to your local office and we can help you discover what learning opportunities are happening. Learn more at [K-State Summer Camps website](#) or at [K-State Salina Aerospace and Technology Summer Programs website](#). Sign up early as many camps have limited spots available. Check back often as they update program offerings regularly. Check out a few of the options, listed below:

- [Animal Science Leadership Academy, Apply by April 15](#)
- [Wildcat Explorers STEM Day Camp, May 26](#)
- [Wildcat Innovators Camp, May 27-29](#)
- [Champions Livestock Judging Camps, June 1-3; June 8-10](#)
- [GROW Summer Workshop, June 3-5](#)
- [Health Professions Exploration Program, June 7-12/21-26](#)
- [Musical Theatre Camp, July 6-12](#)
- [Farm to Fashion Camp, July 13 - 16](#)
- [Feeding Your Future Summer Camp, June 9 - 13](#)
- [Vet Med ROCKS Summer Camp, July 27/28/29](#)

SCIENCE SUMMER CAMPS AT FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY

Fort Hays State University's Science and Mathematics Education Institute (SMEI) is hosting a variety of summer camps in June for rising 2-8 graders. Camp themes relate to weather, energy, robotics, and more! Find camp details and registration information at www.fhsu.edu/smei/camps/.

4-H SUMMER CAMP AT ROCK SPRINGS RANCH

Rock Springs Ranch offers unique 4-H Summer Camp experiences. Explore all camp sessions and offerings at <https://rockspringsranch.org/summer-camps/sessions-rates>.

DISCOVERY DAYS

LEAD WITH HEART, THINK WITH COURAGE, ACT WITH WISDOM

JUNE 3-5 AT K-STATE MANHATTAN

REGISTER EARLY FOR MOST CLASS CHOICES

DEADLINE TO SIGN UP IS MAY 8

Discovery Days is a state 4-H opportunity for youth 13-18 years old (before January 1) to develop college and career readiness skills which prepare participants academically and socially for a successful transition to college and life as an adult. Post Rock District will provide a chaperone and transportation. Registration is open and space is limited, so sign up now! Learn more about the class available, schedule, and how to sign up at the [Kansas 4-H event website](#).

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FFA PARTICIPATION AT COUNTY FAIR - SIGN UP BY MAY 1

Post Rock District supports FFA member participation in the 4-H division of the county fair. [Kansas 4-H Policy](#) (Dual Enrollment of 4-H and FFA Members) will be followed. All 4-H participation deadlines will apply to FFA Chapters and members, including but not limited to tagging and verification expectations, weigh-ins, project drop/add deadline, fair entry deadlines and fees, dress code, code of conduct, etc. FFA participation in events and activities outside the scope of the county fair will be defined on a case-by-case basis.

- **DEADLINE TO SIGN-UP IS MAY 1:** The deadline to submit the [online FFA participation sign-up form](#) is May 1 per the Post Rock District's Drop/Add Deadline. FFA members are not able to enroll via 4-H Online, so Post Rock District is using this online form to enroll members interested in participating at the county fair in 4-H/FFA Division.
- **If you are currently enrolled in Post Rock District 4-H, but also want to exhibit FFA at the same county fair:** Do not fill out the form. You can select all of your 4-H AND FFA project areas in 4-H Online. Then, when you submit your entries by your county's pre-fair/other entry deadlines you will clarify which project areas are to be in 4-H and which ones are to be in FFA.



FUNDRAISERS FOR 4-H CLUBS: PRE-APPROVAL PROCESS

Communicate with your local Extension Office in the early planning stages of your fundraiser to make sure you meet all Kansas 4-H policies and best practices relating to raising money in the name of 4-H. We have a form that helps share the necessary information. Complete the form and submit it to your local Extension Office or email to postrock4h@ksu.edu BEFORE beginning your fundraiser. Do not promote or implement your fundraiser until you receive approval from Post Rock District. Allow at least 10 business days for the fundraiser to be reviewed. If the fundraiser needs to be revised, the individual listed on the form is the one who will be contacted. Find the form on the [Post Rock District 4-H website under Club and Council Support, finances and fundraising](#).

4-H BRANDING REQUIRED ON CLOTHING, AWARDS, AND SWAG

The use of the K-State Research and Extension/Kansas 4-H co-wordmark is required on all 4-H print, digital, apparel, and merchandise. This requirement applies to all designs created at the local, county, district, area, and state levels BEFORE ordering any items to ensure your club, council, fair board, etc. are using licensed vendors and that all designs include the required co-wordmark. We have a form to help with approval. Submit the form & design artwork (in full color) to your local Extension Office or by email to postrock4h@ksu.edu. Allow at least 10 business days for the design to be reviewed. If edits need to be made, the individual listed on the form is the one who will be contacted. Find the form on the [Post Rock District 4-H website under Club and Council Support, branding and marketing](#).

This institution is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services, and activities. Program information may be available in languages other than English. Language access requests and reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, including alternative means of communication (e.g., Braille, large print, and American Sign Language), may be requested by contacting the event contact four weeks prior to the start of the event. Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so. Language access services, such as interpretation or translation of vital information, will be provided free of charge to limited English proficient individuals upon request. Kansas State University is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



POST ROCK DISTRICT 4-H

DISTRICT/STATE EVENTS AND DEADLINES AT A GLANCE



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APRIL 2026 ISSUE

- Apr. 3: Mitchell County 4-H Bake Sale
- Apr. 4: Ag Tech Day, Moundridge
- Apr. 11: Junior Sheep Producer Day
- Apr. 12: Jewell County Small Animal Weigh-in
- Apr. 12: Jewell County 4-H Council Meeting
- Apr. 12: Post Rock District 4-H Dog Practice
- Apr. 13: National Youth in Action application due
- Apr. 13, 16: Livestock County Fair Management Clinic, virtual
- Apr. 14: College Journey Prep Sessions, Zoom
- Apr. 14: Fair Judges & Project Leader Training, Concordia
- Apr. 15: Jewell County Scholarship Applications due
- Apr. 15: Mitchell County Small Animal Weigh-in
- Apr. 15: Insect Art Contest due date
- Apr. 17: Registration Deadline Smith Co. Meat Goat Clinic
- Apr. 20: Osborne County 4-H Council
- Apr. 20: Last Day to Order Beef DNA Envelopes
- Apr. 22: Jewell Co. Shutterbugs Photography registration due
- Apr. 19-25: National Volunteer Week
- Apr. 25: Spring into Volunteer Training, Salina
- Apr. 25: Safe Tractor & Machinery Operation Training
- Apr. 25: Lincoln County Small Animal Weigh-in
- Apr. 26: Osborne County Small Animal Weigh-in
- Apr. 26: Smith County Small Animal Weigh-in
- Apr. 26: Goat Showmanship Clinic, Smith County Fairgrounds
- May 1: Project Enrollment Deadline in 4-H Online
- May 1: FFA Participation Deadline
- May 1: Market Beef Nominations Due & DNA Postmarked
- May 1: Mitchell County Senior 4-H Scholarships due
- May 1: Smith County Senior 4-H Scholarship applications due
- May 1: Lincoln County 4-H Senior Scholarship applications due

- May 2: Shutterbugs Photography Workshop, Jewell
- May 2-3: Shooting Sports Instructor Training, Rock Springs
- May 3 & 17: Post Rock District 4- H Dog Practice
- Jun. 1: Osborne County 4-H Council
- Jun. 3-5: Discovery Days, Manhattan
- Jun. 4: Kansas 4-H FCS Judging Contest, Manhattan
- June 9-12: Youth Range Camp
- Jun. 10: Lincoln County 4-H Council
- June 9 - 13: Feeding Your Future Camp
- Jun. 13-23: Citizenship Washington Focus
- Jun. 15: Small Livestock Nominations Due & DNA Mailed
- Jun. 15: Commercial Heifer Nominations Due
- Jun. 17: Jewell County Fair Pre-Fair Entry deadline
- Jun. 18-20: Kansas 4-H Dairy Show
- June 20: Post Rock District 4-H Dog Show
- Jul. 1: Lincoln County 4-H Pre-Fair Entry deadline
- Jul. 9-12: Jewell County Fair
- Jul. 12-18: Lincoln County Fair
- Jul. 13: Farm to Fashion Camp, Manhattan
- Jul. 15: KSF Grand Drive Entry Deadline
- Jul. 16 - 20: Smith County Fair
- Jul. 20 - 25: Mitchell County Fair
- Jul. 22 - 25: Osborne County Fair
- Jul. 27-29: Vet Med Rocks Summer Camp, Manhattan
- Aug. 4: Kansas 4-H Wheat Expo, El Dorado
- Aug. 15: State Horticulture Judging Contest, Manhattan
- Aug. 15: KJLS Entry Deadline
- Aug. 22 -23: Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes, Manhattan
- Sept. 5: State 4-H Dog Show, Hutchinson
- Sept. 11-13: Kansas State Fair Grand Drive
- Sept. 11-20: Kansas State Fair
- Oct. 2-4: KJLS



April

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